

Draft Minutes
Board Meeting of SPS-EPS/EAS
14 September 2002, Prague, Czech Republic

Attendees: G. Aulanier, M. Carlsson, B. Fleck, L. Fletcher, M. Karlicky, K.-L. Klein, G. Poletto, J. Sylwester and J. Leibacher (invited as Chair of AAS/SPD)
Absent: A. Hanslmeier, A. Hofmann, V. Makarov, P. Palle, S. Poedts, K. Tsinganos

Actions:

- **02-1:** on G. Aulanier to draft summary of “Careers in Solar Physics” session for circulation to EU, EPS, EAS.
- **02-2:** on L. Fletcher and M. Carlsson to coordinate Sun-Earth-Day activities in Europe.
- **02-3:** on B. Fleck to ask J. Kuipers and P. Heinzel to write short report of SPM-10 for Europhysics News and EOS.
- **02-4:** on P. Palle to actively seek volunteers for 2005 ESP meeting and inquire details of possibilities in Bern.

Topics

1. Election of new President and Secretary
2. Actions resulting from “Careers in Solar Physics” session at SPM-10
3. Initiatives to raise profile of solar physics in Europe
4. Next European Solar Physics meeting
5. AOB

1 Elections

P. Palle was elected new president, B. Fleck new secretary.
In the absence of P. Palle, B. Fleck was elected chair of the meeting.

2 Actions resulting from “Careers in Solar Physics” session at SPM-10

The session on “Careers in Solar Physics” was considered an excellent initiative. It was agreed that a synthesis should be written up and sent to the EU (Kostas Alissandrakis to give contacts in Brussels), EPS, and EAS (Action 02-1). In particular the concerns of people > 35 years should be stressed.

3 Initiatives to raise profile of solar physics in Europe

Outreach Day

It was agreed to organize a European-wide outreach day, similar to the SOHO 5-year anniversary/Sun-Earth Day on 27/28 April 2001. Target date: Sun-Earth Day 2003 (18 March 2003). L. Fletcher and M. Carlsson volunteered to coordinate efforts with B. Fleck (Action 02-2).

SPS Prize

B. Fleck suggested to consider establishing a SPS prize, similar to the AAS/SPD Hale prize. Industry support should be sought for an endowment. If that turns out to be unsuccessful, the prize could perhaps be financed from the budget of our tri-annual meetings. As an alternative (or addition?) to a prize for outstanding scientific contributions to our field, it was suggested to consider a prize for young scientists and/or a prize for women (perhaps alternating?). While no conclusion was reached as to how many prizes and in what category, there was agreement that gender balance ought to be a key issue. To be discussed further by e-mail and at the next Board meeting.

Meeting cycle

To raise the profile of solar physics in the wider community, B. Fleck suggested to consider a meeting scheme similar to that of the Solar Physics Division of the American Astronomical Society. They meet on a 3-year cycle: one year alone, then with the AAS, and in the third year with the AGU. Similarly, we could keep our 3-yearly European Solar Physics meeting, and in the years in between could meet one year with the EGS, and in the other year with JENAM. This proposal received a lukewarm reception. Several board members questioned the value of these large meetings and felt that there were already too many meetings. It was suggested that we should instead try to arrange for plenary talks/lectures at these big meetings.

The question was put forward whether we want to meet jointly with the SPD in 2005. For financial reasons, such a joint meeting would have to take place in Europe. John Leibacher will explore the interest of the US community in a joint meeting.

4 Next European Solar Physics meeting

There is no volunteer yet for the 2005 European Solar Physics meeting. We should therefore actively seek volunteers (Action 02-4). Aim is to establish a list of candidates by the end 2002, which will leave sufficient time for selection and writing of proposal to EU (deadline for 2005 meeting: Jan 2004).

One possibility is Bern, Switzerland, where EPS is planning to hold the next triennial General Meeting, EPS-13, in the context of the centennial celebration of Einstein's "annus mirabilis" within the first two weeks of July 2005. There will probably be a sequence of three partially overlapping events, namely a science history colloquium, an official "Festkolloquium" organized by the University of Bern, and EPS-13. The EPS Executive Committee will discuss the format and content of EPS-13 on 22-23 November. Need to find out whether EU money can be tapped for meeting in Switzerland (Action 02-4).

5 AOB

B. Fleck to find out details of SPS bank account: Where? How much?